

CITY OF WORCESTER



# ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

## HEALTH OF THE CITY

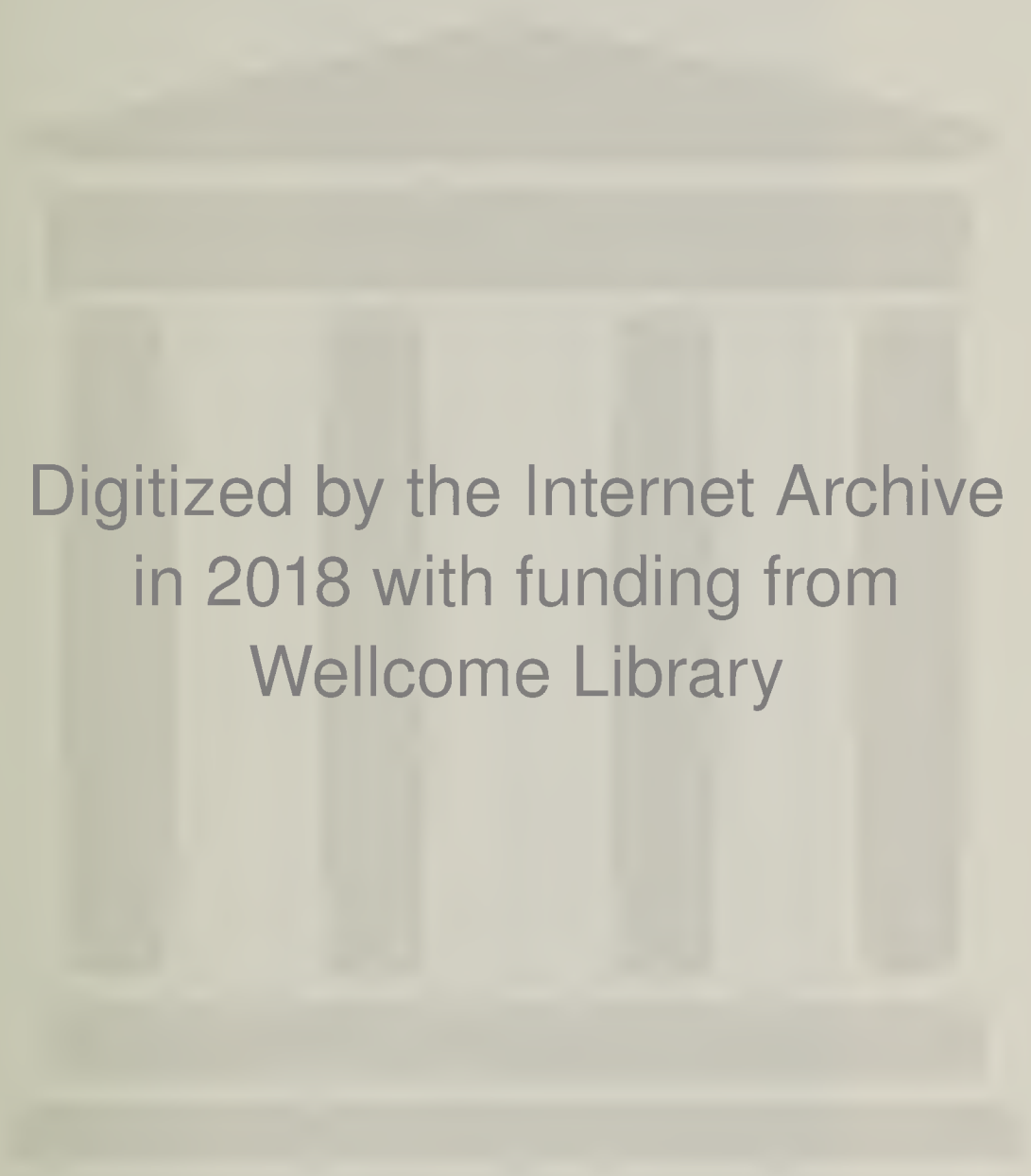
FOR THE YEAR

### 1970

BY

G. M. O'DONNELL, M.A., M.B., D.P.H.  
*Medical Officer of Health*

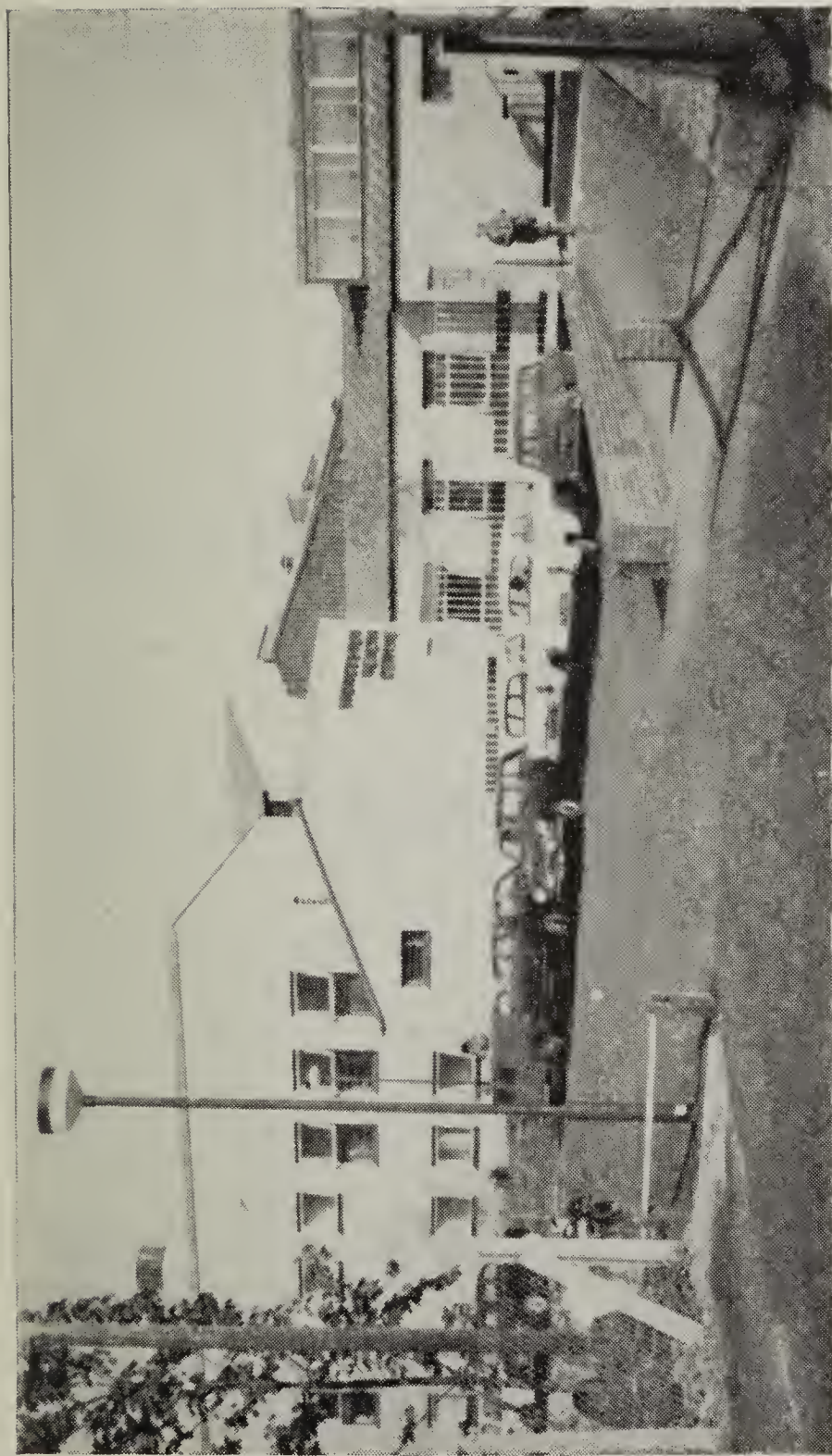




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WORCESTER HEALTH CENTRE  
(as viewed from Tinkers' Walk)



CITY OF WORCESTER



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FOR THE YEAR

1970

BY

G. M. O'DONNELL, M.A., M.B., D.P.H.  
*Medical Officer of Health*



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# THE HEALTH COMMITTEE

31st DECEMBER, 1970

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR  
(Councillor Leslie Thomas Warner)

*Chairman* : COUNCILLOR DENIS BYNG CAUGHEY, M.B.E., J.P.

*Vice-Chairman*: ALDERMAN EDWIN JOHN WHITT

## ALDERMEN

WILLIAM MARTIN BIRD  
WILLIAM JOHN DANIEL  
MRS. HILDA MAY LETTICE

## COUNCILLORS

ROWLAND BLACKWELL  
MRS. ELLA BRADLEY  
MRS. NORAH MABEL CAUGHEY  
PATRICK JOSEPH DALY  
RONALD ALFRED HINDS  
THOMAS EDWARD HOOKER  
MRS. DOROTHY MAY JENKINSON  
CHARLES HARRY PERKS  
GEORGE THOMAS RANDALL  
ARTHUR ERNEST SAGE

## NON-MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

*Nominated by City of  
Worcester Local Medical  
Committee*

DR. D. W. JAMES

*Nominated by City of  
Worcester Executive  
Council*

MR. C. R. KNIGHT

## HEALTH SUB-COMMITTEES

### *Health Centres*

ALDERMAN DANIEL

DR. D. M. BRIERLEY

COUNCILLOR MRS. BRADLEY

DR. W. K. EARLE

COUNCILLOR MRS. CAUGHEY

DR. J. B. ROGERS  
(Nominated by Local  
Medical Committee)

COUNCILLOR RANDALL

COUNCILLOR SAGE

MR. W. LUDLAM

MR. H. WALKER

(Nominated by City of  
Worcester Executive  
Council)

### *Mental Health Services*

ALDERMAN DANIEL

MR. W. LUDLAM

COUNCILLOR MRS. BRADLEY

MR. H. WALKER  
(Nominated by City of  
Worcester Executive  
Council)

COUNCILLOR MRS. JENKINSON

COUNCILLOR PERKS

### *Property Inspection*

ALDERMAN DANIEL

COUNCILLOR MRS. BRADLEY

COUNCILLOR DALY

COUNCILLOR HINDS

COUNCILLOR HOOKER

COUNCILLOR INIGHT

COUNCILLOR MRS. JENKINSON

## PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF, 1970

### *Medical Officer of Health and Principal School Medical Officer :*

G. M. O'DONNELL, M.A., M.B., D.P.H.

### *Deputy Medical Officer of Health and Deputy Principal School Medical Officer :*

J. T. ROBERTS, M.B., B.S., D.P.H. (Resigned 29th November, 1970)

D. G. SNELL, M.B., B.S., D.P.H., D.T.M. (From 30th November, 1970)

### *Medical Officers in Department :*

D. G. SNELL, M.B., B.S., D.P.H., D.T.M. (Change of Appointment 30th November, 1970)

BARBARA A. CROFT, M.B., B.S., L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S. (From 30th March, 1970)

### *Honorary Adviser in Mental Health :*

A. M. SPENCER, B.SC., M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.M.

### *Psychiatrist (Part-time) :*

EILEEN M. WHITELOW, M.B., B.S.

### *Public Analyst :*

W. E. JONES, M.SC., F.R.I.C. (County Analyst—Services utilised by arrangement with Worcestershire County Council)

### *Principal Dental Officer :*

E. R. DOWLAND, L.D.S., R.C.S. (Eng.)

### *Senior Dental Officer :*

K. A. FELLOWS, L.D.S.

### *Dental Officers (Part-time) :*

MRS. B. SAVAGE, B.D.S.

R. WEBLEY, L.D.S.

### *Dental Anaesthetists (Part-time) :*

H. HARVEY, M.D., M.B., B.S., D.A.

W. D. STEEL, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

*Dental Surgery Assistants :*

MRS. R. J. YOUNG  
 MISS M. PARTRIDGE  
 MRS. L. A. DOVEY (part-time)

*Chief Public Health Inspector :*

T. W. MARSDEN

*Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector :*

J. H. BENJAMIN

*District Public Health Inspectors :*

J. HARTLEY  
 G. D. HALES  
 T. C. COLEMAN  
 P. C. BEECH (Resigned 31st March, 1970)  
 R. G. FIDOE (From 1st March, 1970)

*Meat Inspectors :*

G. W. GLENDENNING  
 L. P. AUDEN (From 1st January, 1970).

*Rodent Officer :*

H. A. WILLIS

*Rodent Operative :*

R. JONES

*Driver / Handyman :*

S. MORGAN

*Chief Nursing Officer and Non-Medical Supervisor of Midwives :*

MISS O. KEYWOOD

*Deputy Principal Nursing Officer and Deputy Non-Medical Supervisor of Midwives:*

MRS. E. S. SMITH (Resigned 10th September, 1970).

*Group Adviser Health Visitor :*

MRS. M. SMITH (From 1st September, 1970).



*Health Visitors/School Nurses :*

MISS P. HIGGINS

MISS J. M. TEECE

MRS. C. E. CHRISTOPHER

MRS. M. HEATON

MRS. U. M. AUSTIN

MRS. S. H. BONWICK

MRS. M. SMITH (Change of Appointment 1st September, 1970)

MRS. P. SHUKER

MISS G. E. MAYES (From 1st October, 1970)

MRS. B. W. NELSON (From 13th July, 1970)

MISS A. M. G. PAKINGTON (From 1st October, 1970)

MISS J. M. DEWEY (From 9th September, 1970)

*Trainee Health Visitor :*

MISS R. J. LOWRY (From 13th September, 1970)

*Geriatric Health Visitor :*

MRS. M. E. HOLMES

*Clinic Nurses (Temporary Appointments) :*

MRS. P. FELLOWS

MRS. M. R. GUEST (Commenced 13th July, 1970)

*Senior District Nurse :*

MISS M. J. CARTWRIGHT

*Geriatric District Nurse :*

MRS. M. NAYLOR

*District Nurses :*

MRS. E. LOCK (Change of appointment 1st November, 1970)

MRS. S. R. BERESFORD

MR. R. O. PHILPOT

MISS R. E. WELLSTED

MR. V. CONNELLAN

MR. J. GRAY

MISS J. PREECE

MRS. J. GRIFFIN



*District Nurses (Part-time) :*

MRS. S. K. DRINKWATER  
 MRS. G. HURST  
 MRS. G. M. HART  
 MRS. A. E. BROOKES  
 MRS. A. V. J. DAVIS  
 MRS. E. S. S. CARTER  
 MRS. E. P. COUPLAND  
 MRS. W. E. M. SOUTHGATE  
 MRS. A. ROLLINGS  
 MRS. M. B. REILLY (Commenced 1st November, 1970)  
 MRS. S. M. HUGHES  
 MRS. W. A. DUNNING  
 MRS. J. C. MILTON  
 MRS. K. A. M. BURROW  
 MISS E. FRY  
 MRS. V. DAVIS

*Midwives :*

MISS F. MIDWINTER  
 MISS M. F. WILLIAMS  
 MRS. R. CHONG

*Clerk, Nursing Institute :*

MRS. M. M. ANDERTON

*Chiropodists (Part-time) :*

MRS. M. R. GILBERT  
 MISS J. E. PRICE  
 MR. R. J. BAILEY  
 MR. N. GILBERT

*Senior Mental Welfare Officer :*

P. Y. GRIFFITH

*Mental Welfare Officers :*

D. H. MCGILVRAY  
 P. JELF  
 MRS. D. M. K. AITZETMULLER  
 G. PRYOR  
 G. HUGHES

*Home Help Organiser :*

MISS C. J. PAIN

*Assistant Home Help Organiser :*

MRS. M. J. LUCEY

*Chief Clerk :*

A. J. RIX

*Senior Clerk :*

MISS E. C. GRIFFIN

*Secretary to Medical Officer of Health :*

MISS M. M. PARSONS

*Clerical Officers :*

MISS E. BISHOP

MISS M. F. DUNNE

and 11 full-time clerks

*Manager, Perryfields Adult Training Centre :*

W. T. BAYLAY

*Superintendent, Perryfields Hostel :*

G. E. JONES

*Assistant Superintendent, Perryfields Hostel :*

MRS. N. T. FARRANT

*Senior Assistant Supervisor, Adult Training Centre .*

MRS. L. J. BOWER

*Assistant Supervisors, Adult Training Centre :*

MRS. J. BEDFORD

MRS. C. BIRCH

*Instructors, Adult Training Centre :*

D. W. ROBINSON

J. JONES

*Assistant Instructor, Adult Training Centre :*

MISS C. M. CHAINEY

*Health Centre Staff :*

*Superintendent :*

MRS. E. LOCK (Commenced 1st November, 1970)

2 part-time Nurses

9 Receptionists/Clerical Staff

# ANNUAL REPORT

## ON THE

### HEALTH OF THE CITY

BY

G. M. O'DONNELL, M.A., M.B., D.P.H.

*To the Right Worshipful the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors  
of the City of Worcester.*

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

Florence Nightingale once observed that she had no great faith in paper government. But even she was not exposed to the recurring blast of green papers, white papers and consultative documents that have recently enveloped those working in Local Government. She saw the advent of the first Medical Officers of Health and might well have assumed that as communities would always be vulnerable to disease, disaster and social injustice, there would similarly be a need for the doctors engaged in this work. Most Medical Officers of Health were of the same opinion. However, successive Governments have decreed otherwise and it now seems likely that within the next few years the role of Medical Officer of Health will cease and from the ashes will rise a tawdry ambiguous phoenix entitled with semantic inexactitude, the Community Physician. I must confess that I too, thought that the position of the Medical Officer of Health was impregnable and that in these days when the problems of civilised life have become so complex and the care of our old people and the handicapped more and more urgent, the work of the local government Health Department needed but support and direction. Indeed, the City statistics for 1970 would seem to confirm this view and the generalised reduction in infant and adult death rates, the low illegitimacy rate, the virtual ending of slum clearance, the extraordinarily high figures for immunisation and vaccination and the low incidence of infectious disease, all contribute to a situation, in which on other occasions, the Health Committee and its staff might consider worthy of congratulation. Unfortunately this is not so and it is the progenitors of the consultative documents with their zest for large authorities and glass and aluminium tower community physicians, who are right. For the unpalatable facts are that the great and over-riding problems which we face all stem from one source which is world wide in its origins. Over-population and its derivative pollution

must now be clearly recognised as the two greatest hazards to our wellbeing and the main direction of our efforts should be to reduce the dramatic increase in our numbers which is already out of hand. This is a task of immense complexity, particularly as the emphasis of all our services is inclined not only to the saving of life, but indeed, to its creation. Regional and local planning, housing programmes, social welfare, almost the entire fabric of life of a generous and sophisticated community, encourage early marriage, a settled domestic life and the steady production of children. Against this desirable and noble fecundity which may well destroy us, we can oppose only the limited resources of family planning which many enlist at the end of an over-fruitful career or not at all.

This is indeed a triste and dolorous affair and should occasion great anxiety to those whose life insurance runs into the next century. It is for this reason that your Health Department cannot expect the usual frenzied acclaim for the work which they have undertaken during the year and your Medical Officer of Health asks for your commendation only in his other role as Medical Referee of the Crematorium.

No matter, I can at least take pleasure in thanking most sincerely my Chairman, Councillor D. B. Caughey, M.B.E., J.P., and the members of the Health Committee for their continuing help and encouragement during the year.

My colleagues in other departments and organisations have afforded me every courtesy and assistance and in particular I should like to acknowledge the support and co-operation of those in my own profession.

Lastly, I should like to thank the staff of the Health Department for the conscientious and devoted manner in which they have carried out their duties.

Yours faithfully,

G. M. Ó DONNELL



## A TALE OF TWO CITIES

“ One has no great hopes from Birmingham, I always say there is something direful in the sound ”, so spoke Miss Elton in Jane Austen’s Emma, and while this might have been very true in early Victorian days, how different is the picture now. One facet of Birmingham life quickly revealed to the interested observer is the constantly smiling countenances of its young people. This is not due to any specific natural disposition or indeed, indicative of any particular geniality of the Birmingham character, but rather that since the introduction of fluoridation the beauty of their teeth and the consequent freedom from dental drill and forceps gives them something worthwhile to smile about.

How different it is in Worcester where even the devoted efforts of our Health Committee did not manage to secure the introduction of fluoridation this year and for the third time in succession it was rejected by the Council. I am always surprised how little overt support this measure receives from the public and hope that the next time it comes forward they will make their wishes more generally known. Perhaps if fluoridation could also be proved to be of value to the canine population we might be more successful.

## DON’T BITE THE ALSATIAN

I remember a patient who had great difficulty in getting employment as one leg was shorter than the other. He was eventually accepted by the Army, the Medical Board deciding that with one leg longer than the other there was nothing really wrong with him.

Paradox in words and behaviour is a useful way of emphasising a situation and whether employed for good or bad is generally at least a vehicle of humour. But there is one particular example which one encounters frequently that is all the more unpleasant since it is used thoughtlessly and sounds so hideously patronising. I refer to the appellation of “ Senior Citizen ” to old people. As so many are accorded neither respect or affection and at the best regarded by their relations or neighbours with a grudging tolerance, to describe them as senior citizens is paradox indeed.

## YAMAHA, MON AMOUR

One of the delights of urban life which adds such charm and variety to our existence is the sudden acceleration of high-powered motorcycles. Their approach at frantic speed, the invigorating crescendo of sound and the subsequent tranquility of their passing, invoke some significantly interesting reactions. Passers-by discover their personal thresholds for high intensity sound, leg muscles attain a peak of efficiency, adrenal glands are wonderfully stimulated and the blood supply to vital organs vastly increased. The subsequent expressions of appreciation are sincere while not necessarily original. Can it be that the large number of Japanese machines induce a samurai spirit in their riders and can we hope that the police will eventually assume the roles of Admiral Perry and Emperor Meigi.

## CIRCULAR 1/71

Requests for specific information on certain subjects.

- (a) Attachment or Liaison Schemes.  
All health visitors and the majority of district nurses are attached to general practices in the City. An exception has had to be made in the case of male district nurses of whom we have not sufficient in number to justify seconding to a practice. Co-operation between the various branches of the National Health Service in the City is very close and we all take in each other's washing.
- (b) Notification of Congenital Defects.  
The scheme for notification of congenital defects is proceeding without difficulty.
- (c) Fluoridation of Water Supplies.  
Refer to previous remarks.
- (d) Control of Venereal Disease  
Discussed with venereologist. The present situation in Worcester is that, in general, contact tracing is left to the staff of the Special Clinic and help from the Health Department is asked for only when there are particular difficulties. The standard of co-operation is very good and any unusual development is a matter of immediate mutual participation.  
The appointment of a full-time Health Education Officer has been approved by the Health Committee who are much influenced by the national increase in venereal disease and the probability of its introduction from outside by fellows of low moral standard and lascivious disposition.

## GENERAL STATISTICS

			City of Worcester	England and Wales
Area (in acres)	...	...	6114	—
Estimated population	...	...	71920	—
Number of inhabited dwellings	...	...	25087	—
Number of persons per dwelling	...	...	2.87	—
Rateable value of the borough	...	...	£3,401,606	—
Product of a Penny Rate	...	...	13,825	—



## VITAL STATISTICS

	City of Worcester	England and Wales
Live Births		
Number ... ..	1243	784482
Rate per 1,000 population ...	16.8	16.0
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total live births ... ..	5.0	8.0
Stillbirths		
Number ... ..	9	10341
Rate per 1,000 total live and still- births ... ..	7.0	13.0
Total Live and Stillbirths ... ..	1252	794823
Infant deaths (deaths under 1 year)	15	14269
Infant Mortality Rates		
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births ... ..	12.0	18.0
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births ... ..	11.0	17.0
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births ... ..	30.0	26.0
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births) ... ..	10.0	12.0
Early neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births) ... ..	7.0	11.0
Perinatal Mortality Rate (still births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and stillbirths)	14.0	23.0
Maternal Mortality (including abor- tions)—No. of deaths ... ..	NIL	
Deaths		
Number ... ..	756	575208
Rate per 1,000 population ...	10.2	11.7
Number of deaths from tuberculosis (two respiratory, two non-respir- atory) ... ..	4	—
Tuberculosis deaths rate per 1,000 population ... ..	0.03	—







## HEALTH STATISTICS

The stars in their courses and conjunctions smiled on Worcester in 1970 and those preoccupied with intimations of mortality would delight in the degree of statistical safety provided in the City. The death rate fell to 10.2 per 1,000 population which is the least we have yet recorded, and at the same time our infant death rates enjoyed a dramatic decline. The perinatal mortality rate came down with a bump to 14, the maternal mortality rate was nil and the stillbirth rate was only 7 per 1,000 total live and stillbirths. As might be expected, deaths from tuberculosis also diminished in number and proportion, so that if the National Health Service was paid on a piecework basis there would have been a substantial bonus for all concerned. Comparisons of these rates are shown below.

## Death Rate (deaths per 1,000 population)

Worcester	...	...	1961	11.82
			1966	10.59
			1968	12.29
			1970	10.2
England and Wales	...	...	1970	11.7

On the other hand our success in delaying the inevitable was not paralleled by an ability to control the fecund enthusiasm of our citizens. Our population increased to over 73,000 while the birth rate per 1,000 population rose from 16 to 16.8. However, Worcester remained true to its old policy of studying with minute care the attitudes and behaviour of the rest of the country and then doing precisely the opposite. With permissiveness of one form or other raging around us, we confined our progenitive efforts within strictly conventional bounds and the illegitimate birth rate fell to a mere 5 per cent of total live births. Of course, this could also be due to our



increasing sophistication in amatory matters, but in a City of such ecclesiastical renown it would be churlish to ascribe this decline to anything but the good sense, continence, devoted family life and good luck of our citizens.

			Birth Rate	Illegitimate Birth Rate
Worcester	...	...	1961 15.93	5.25
			1965 17.9	6.35
			1968 16.33	8.17
			1970 16.8	5.00
England and Wales	...		1970 16.00	8.00

## NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, 1946

### Section 21 — Health Centres

Amid scenes of extraordinary popular rejoicing, public acclaim and civic panoply, our first health centre was opened on the 20th November by the Right Honourable Sir Keith Joseph, Bt. M.P., Secretary of State for Social Services. The Chairman of the Health Committee, Councillor D. B. Caughey, M.B.E., J.P., welcomed the Minister and described the vicissitudes which had at times encompassed its planning and construction. Originally destined for a site opposite the Royal Infirmary, the Transportation Study Report with almost sinister accuracy, drove a six lane highway straight through it and it was sometime before we finally settled on the Blockhouse area of the City, which is a large expanse of central development.

The Minister congratulated all those who had worked so hard on the project and in particular mentioned Dr. Duncan Brierley, a general practitioner whose efforts on behalf of the project placed him *primus inter pares* amongst his colleagues.

The Health Centre is designed to accommodate 15 doctors, their clerks and receptionists, and the health visitors, district nurses and geriatric visitors attached to each practice. There is a treatment room staffed by two nurses and also a small laboratory. Its unusual design, pleasing appearance and functional efficiency are a tribute to our City Architect, Mr. J. Roy McKee and his staff, who gave meticulous attention to every aspect of the scheme.

It must not, however, be thought that the opening ceremony was the only recognition afforded to this new concept of community care. Later in the year an entirely spontaneous demonstration took place when some 50 itinerant caravans moved into the surrounding area. The majority of these came from quite distant parts of the country and it is a tribute to Sir Keith Joseph's glowing words and to the warmth of his recommendation that so many unexpected visitors should undertake the pilgrimage and indeed, remain with us for such a surprisingly long period of time. I hope that now they have dispersed to their several places of origin that they will continue to put into practice the lessons learned at our health centre and to impress upon their local authorities the need for a provision of this type.



## Section 22 — Care of Expectant and Nursing Mothers and Children under School Age

### (a) Ante Natal Clinics

The well-established weekly sessions have been continued at the Tything Nursing Institute Clinic and also at the Warndon Clinic. Altogether 306 mothers attended the clinics, but it is rather surprising to see that whereas 245 came to The Tything, only 61 elected to be examined at Warndon Clinic. The Tything, of course, is very centrally situated and many of the mothers prefer to combine their visit to the clinic with a shopping expedition, even though the Warndon Clinic may, in some cases, be geographically nearer to their homes.

Our midwives have also helped to staff the ante natal clinics held in the surgeries of two of the general practitioners.

### (b) Parentcraft and Relaxation Classes

The classes at the Tything Nursing Institute and Powell's Row clinic have been attended by 268 expectant mothers who have made a total of 1,205 attendances.

### (c) Care of Unmarried Mothers

This work is carried out for us by the Worcester Diocesan Association for Family and Social Service whose social worker, Mrs. N. Angelbeck, undertakes the necessary visiting. The Health Committee was financially responsible for the care of ten mothers in appropriate Mother and Baby Homes.

### (d) Dental Care of Expectant Mothers and Young Children

Mr. E. R. Dowland, Principal Dental Officer, reports as follows :

Seven mothers were inspected and found in need of treatment. There was little work to do — seven extractions, thirteen conservations, one full and five partial dentures.

Eighty-four infants were inspected and of the fifty-six needing treatment, thirty-six came as emergencies.

Eighty-seven teeth were extracted, the same as the previous year but fillings in deciduous teeth improved from twenty-six to forty-four.

Dental Education talks were given to mothers when their children were inspected at two Play Groups. The response was so good in one case that the same system is being launched at Infant Welfare Clinics.

### (e) Child Health Centres

In our regular clinic buildings eight sessions per week are held, a doctor being present at six of these sessions. Church Halls are used for five other periods each fortnight, and here again a doctor is present on four occasions. One or more health visitors attend every clinic. It will be an interesting speculation for those interested in environmental studies to determine whether this division into sacred and profane premises has any residual effect upon children, parents and staff.

During the year 3,365 children were seen at the clinics, making in all 19,250 attendances. This is a very great increase on the previous year's work.

### (f) Family Planning

I am grateful to Dr. Mary Harcup for the following report :

1970 began with the aftermath of December, 1969's Report on the oestrogen content of oral contraceptives from the Committee on Drug Safety. Each patient who had taken the discontinued pills needed extra clinic time until she had been established on a suitable new product. This was reflected in our attendance figures. The total clinic attendances were higher in the earlier months of the year, but the number of new patients was almost constant, increasing marginally in the later months.

The clinics continued to be held at the Tything, Warndon and Gorse Hill. Free consultation was given to all comers, with supplies sold at cost price unless there were medical or social reasons for free supplies. We adopted a liberal interpretation of "social reasons" and took the patient's word for temporary financial hardship, such as the husband's unemployment. Many colleagues from other departments of the local authority co-operated with those of the Health Department in bringing patients personally if they felt they were in great need or shy of availing themselves of our services.

84 per cent of our new patients chose, and were found suitable for, oral contraception. 5 per cent were referred for an intra-uterine device (I.U.D.) and the others chose conventional methods of contraception. An I.U.D. clinic was opened by the Worcester clinic of the Family Planning Association in July, 1970, so since that date City patients have been referred there rather than further afield, for fitting.



Our family planning service is essentially a personal one, but as in 1970, population explosion and pollution became of increasing public concern, the continuation of this section of the City's health service is of great individual and community importance.

#### (g) Daily Minding Service

When we closed down our day nurseries in 1962, a daily minding service was substituted, but confined to children in certain priority groups, viz. children of unsupported mothers. At the same time the Health Committee encouraged the registration of child minders who would look after children for reward when both parents wished to go out to work. There were 50 such child minders registered at the end of 1970, while there are two private day nurseries in the City providing places for a total of 51 children. These nurseries are staffed by qualified nursery nurses and accept very young babies as well as toddlers under school age. Vacancies are eagerly sought both by mothers undertaking full-time courses of study and those in ordinary employment.

Three-yearly chest X-ray examinations are carried out on all who come into regular contact with the children.

#### (h) Play Groups

The tremendous growth in the number of play groups is a modern phenomenon and by the end of 1970 there were 16 registered groups in the City providing some 370 places.

Although play groups are in fact registered as day nurseries, their function is not to relieve mothers of the care of children, but rather to provide toddlers with a stimulating environment, with the company of children of similar age and the opportunities for play and communal activities. Organisers have always been most co-operative in accepting in their midst a physically or mentally handicapped child. It was, however, most encouraging to know that at the end of the year arrangements were well advanced for the registration of a play group specially organised for the reception of mentally handicapped children which will fill a very real need in the City.

The responsibility for child minding and play groups now passes from the Health Committee to the Social Services Committee under the requirements of the new Social Services Act.

## (i) Welfare Foods

During 1969 and 1970 the following quantities of welfare foods were bought by the public :

	1969	1970
National Dried Milk (full cream) ...	8,152	5,399
National Dried Milk (half cream) ...	13	5
Cod Liver Oil Bottles ...	913	802
Vitamins A and D Packets ...	899	1,066
Orange Juice Bottles ...	20,184	20,070

## (j) National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children

I should like to thank the Worcester and Mid-Worcestershires Branch of the N.S.P.C.C. and their inspector, Mr. William Andrews, for their help given to the Department during the year and for their concern and solicitude in the care of the more unfortunate children in this area.

## (h) Assessment of Very Young Children

Dr. Douglas Snell reports :

Examination and assessment of young children proceeded on the general lines detailed in the Annual Report for 1969.

The abnormality which is specially looked for is that involving defective hearing. Every child born in the City is given a special hearing test between 7 and 8 months. These tests are usually carried out at special sessions as they involve the co-operation of two workers, one to attract the child's general attention and the other one to produce recognised simple sounds which will be of interest to a baby of that age. If the first test is failed it is repeated, and, if necessary, the child is referred to the peripatetic teacher of the partially hearing or to the E.N.T. Consultant.

Every month one or two Ruth Griffiths tests are carried out. While these are undoubtedly helpful, single tests often do not give a reliable estimate of how the child is likely to have developed when it reaches school age. Repeated tests often show a striking improvement in intelligence and awareness. This is particularly the case when children are able to attend playgroups or otherwise benefit from the company of other children at a similar stage of development. More use is being made of the facilities provided by Lea Hospital and Lea Castle Hospital. These units invite children requiring assessment to attend with their parents for several consecutive days or else to be admitted for a longer period. A continued assessment

prepared in this way gives a much more reliable estimate of a child's potential and indication of the best type of schooling. It is particularly necessary to make an early assessment of children with serious visual and hearing defects, as these children may profit from institutional teaching from the age of two onwards.

### (l) Congenital Abnormalities.

The following table shows a list of congenital defects graded according to the official classification and notified to the Department of Health for inclusion in the 1970 statistics :

Central Nervous System						
Hydrocephalus	...	...	...	...	...	1
Myelocoele	...	...	...	...	...	1
Alimentary System						
Cleft Palate	...	...	...	...	...	1
Hare Lip	...	...	...	...	...	1
Tongue Tie	...	...	...	...	...	1
Heart and Circulatory						
Systolic murmur	...	...	...	...	...	1
Fallots Tetrolgy	...	...	...	...	...	1
Urino-genital system						
Hypospadias	...	...	...	...	...	3
Limbs						
Syndactyly	...	...	...	...	...	1
Polydactyly	...	...	...	...	...	1
Talipes	...	...	...	...	...	5
Congenital Dislocation of the hips	...	...	...	...	...	5
Reduction deformity of leg	...	...	...	...	...	1
Other Systems						
Tuft of hair — Sacral Region	...	...	...	...	...	1
Other Malformations						
Down's syndrome (mongolism)	...	...	...	...	...	1

### (m) All Risks/Observation Register

All children are visited soon after birth by one of the health visitors and any who present special problems are always observed by repeated visits.

Whilst all children receive a measure of observation during their early pre-school years, a special register is kept of all those born with — or who develop later — any defect which is likely to result in them requiring special schooling. When the time comes such children will be formally classified as handicapped pupils. At the end of 1970 the number of such children totalled a little over 50.



(n) Phenylketonuria

This is a rare metabolic disease and for some years now health visitors have carried out simple urine tests on babies a few weeks old. Recent research has, however, revealed the fact that a blood test is more accurate and should ideally be performed when the child is between seven and fourteen days old. In addition, the specimens of blood must be sent to Birmingham for examination.

The organisation of this Guthrie test proved quite complicated and close co-operation with the Maternity Hospitals was necessary. A scheme was, however, evolved by the Maternity Liaison Committee and the testing is now proceeding without difficulty. No positive results have so far been reported in the City.

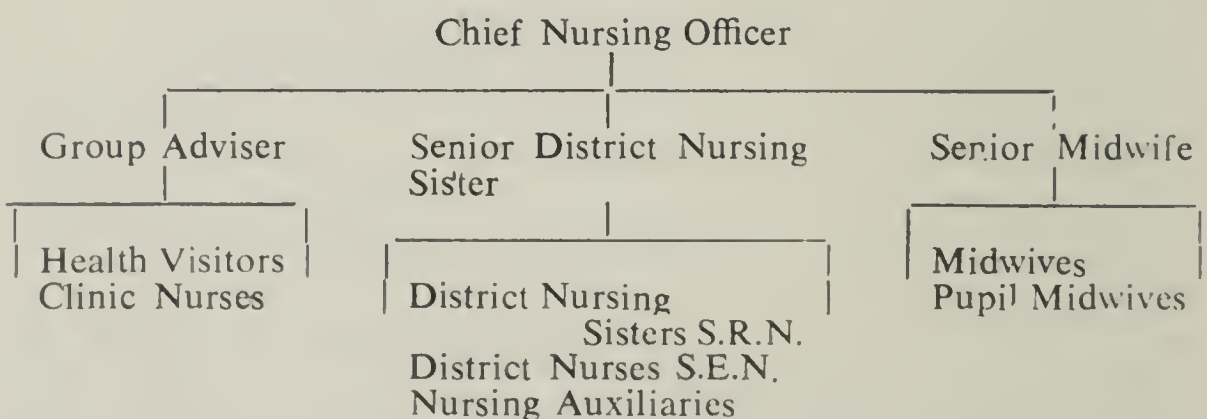
## DOMICILIARY NURSING SERVICES

I am indebted to Miss Olive Keywood, our Chief Nursing Officer, for the support which she has given me during the year and for the main content of the following reports on the nursing services.

In September, Mrs. E. S. Smith, Deputy Principal Nursing Officer, moved away from Worcester and it was then decided to make some administrative changes in order to bring the structure of the Nursing Services into line with the recommendations of the Mayston Report of the Working Party on Management Structure in the Local Authority Nursing Services. The post of Deputy Principal Nursing Officer was, therefore, deleted from the establishment and substituted in its place was that of Group Adviser Health Visitor who would be responsible for the day-to-day administration of the Health Visiting Service.

In the District Nursing Service it has, for some years, been the policy to conserve the skills of the state registered nursing sisters by employing an increasing number of state enrolled nurses and in October, the Health Committee authorised the employment of nursing auxiliaries to relieve the trained nurses of some of the more routine duties.

The following is the up-to-date pattern of administration.



As in previous years representatives have attended the twice yearly meetings of the Advisory Committee of Public Health Nursing Officers which meets at the offices of the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board, and Mrs. Boyd, the Public Health Nursing Officer of the Department of Health and Social Security, has visited the Health Department to discuss the nursing services.



Five state registered nursing sisters and one state enrolled nurse completed the District Nurse Training Course and all were successful in the examination of the Department of Health and Social Security. Ten pupil nurses from the Evesham School of Nursing successfully completed the Queen's Institute of District Nursing course of instruction.

Mrs. Bonwick attended a Refresher Course at Cardiff, while Miss Teece and Miss Dewey attended a one day Family Planning Seminar in London. All members of staff very much appreciated the opportunity afforded them to attend the Worcestershire County Council Annual Refresher Course.

There is a nationwide shortage of health visitors, but we have been very fortunate in being able to maintain our staff at a satisfactory level. This is largely due to the Council's policy of sponsoring state registered nurses to undertake the course of training at the North Gloucestershire Technical College in Cheltenham. Miss Dewey successfully completed the course in September, while Miss Lowry commenced the 1970/71 course in October. The appointment of Clinic Nurses has relieved our health visitors of many routine clinic and school duties and has thus enabled their skills to be utilised to greater advantage.

## **Home Nursing**

In a period of ten years the work of the Home Nursing Service has more than doubled. In 1960, a total of 30,501 visits were paid to 886 patients, while in 1970, 1,652 patients received 69,436 visits.

This tremendous increase in the service is due to some extent to the increasing age of the population and also to the natural growth of the City, but largely it is attributable to the attachment schemes whereby the district nursing sisters work in much closer co-operation with the general practitioners. As a result, more patients are referred for the skilled nursing which the service is able to offer. Staff has been maintained at a satisfactory level throughout the year.

In these days of changing methods and increasingly sophisticated techniques, it is essential that nursing staff keep abreast with modern developments. Two very generous bequests have enabled the Nursing Institute to establish an Education Fund and by this means staff can attend special courses and seminars in addition to the regular refresher courses which are made available to them.

Eight pupil midwives passed the Part II Examination of the Central Midwives Board.

If the future of the nursing profession is to be assured, it is imperative that intelligent, well educated recruits be attracted to this very rewarding work, and the Chief Nursing Officer was very pleased when she was invited to the Worcester Grammar School to talk to the senior girls on the subject of nursing as a career.

Lectures have been given to the Middle Management Courses arranged by the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board and to the students at the College of Education. Pupil nurses from St. Wulstan's Hospital have spent a week observing the work of the Community Services and students from the Worcester Royal Infirmary School of Nursing have been given an insight into the duties of the local authority nursing staff.

The home helps have had talks and demonstrations on simple home nursing and emergency midwifery.

### **Midwifery**

182 mothers were delivered in their own homes in 1970, while a further 550 were attended by the domiciliary midwives after their discharge from hospital.

I am grateful to the Ambulance Service for their co-operation in accepting night calls for the midwife on duty, thus obviating the necessity for the Nursing Institute telephone to be manned throughout the twenty-four hours.

The Part II Midwifery Training School had a routine inspection by the Educational Supervisor of the Central Midwives Board and a satisfactory report was received.

### **Health Visiting**

In September, Mrs. Margaret Smith who had been on the health visiting staff since July, 1969, was appointed Group Adviser Health Visitor with responsibility for the day-to-day administration of the Health Visiting Service. Her long experience in this field made her a most suitable candidate for promotion.

Mrs. Holmes attended a seminar entitled "Middle Aged Man", which she found most interesting and especially helpful in view of her work in the Clinic for the Retired.

### **Marie Curie Memorial Foundation**

Once again the funds provided by this voluntary organisation have enabled extra care to be provided for very ill cancer patients. Twenty-one patients have been helped during the year at a total cost of £327 of which over £150 has been donated locally.

I should like to pay tribute once more to this extraordinary organisation which does so much practical good.

### **Multiple Sclerosis Society**

Under the terms of our scheme the Multiple Sclerosis Society has paid for considerable extra nursing care for a patient suffering from this disease and we are most grateful to them for this help.

### **Provision of Nursing Equipment**

Approximately 1,260 articles of equipment have been loaned to patients during the year. Although this number is largely composed of small items such as backrests and bed cradles, eight hydraulic hoists are available for lifting very heavy helpless patients. These hoists are in constant use and have made possible the home nursing of patients who would otherwise have needed hospital care.

Incontinence sheets, pads and pants have been supplied to 291 patients.

### **Night Care Service**

To the aged, the sick and the handicapped, the long hours of the night can prove a great trial. In the autumn the Worcester Round Table offered to finance a pilot night care service.

This service now operates on five nights each week and the average is five patients visited each night. Relatives are assisted to make heavy, seriously ill patients comfortable for the night and help and reassurance are given to handicapped persons living alone.

We are all aware of how hard the Worcester Round Table have had to work to raise the considerable amount of money required for a service of this nature. It is a great tribute to their public spirit, energy and enthusiasm and it is pleasant to think that at least such hard won monies are used for such a noble purpose.



## Section 26 — Vaccination and Immunisation

The Department of Health and Social Security have sent us the percentages of children vaccinated and immunised by local authorities together with the equivalent national figures. It would appear from these that West Sussex and Worcester head the tables, although we must yield precedence to our rival in all but smallpox vaccination. Figures of 100 per cent are not achieved easily and are in fact a tribute to the enthusiasm of the Health Department staff and to the general practitioners who have co-operated so loyally to obtain these results. Again, however, I must also praise the parents of the City who have shown the greatest conscientiousness in ensuring that their children receive the protection afforded by these various procedures.

Local Health Authority	PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN BORN IN 1968 AND VACCINATED BY 31.12.70			
	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Poliomyelitis	Smallpox (Children under 2)
England	79	81	79	35
West Sussex	101	102	102	70
WORCESTER	100	100	101	79

## Measles and Rubella

Statistics submitted to the Ministry were as follows :

	Year of Birth					Others under age 16	Total
	1970	1969	1968	1967	1963 - 1966		
Measles	1	564	405	169	230	13	1382
Rubella	—	—	—	—	—	311	311



**B.C.G.**

B.C.G. vaccination supplied under Section 28 of the National Health Service Act, is also carried out and it is perhaps more appropriate to include the results of this with the other forms of immunisation in this particular section. Statistics are quoted below.

Return for the year ended 31st December, 1970.

Number of persons vaccinated through the Authority's approved arrangements under Section 28 of the National Health Service Act.

**A. CONTACTS (Circular 19/64)**

(i)	Skin tested	...	...	...	...	38
(ii)	Found positive	...	...	...	...	4
(iii)	Found negative	...	...	...	...	34
(iv)	Vaccinated	...	...	...	...	21

**B. SCHOOL CHILDREN AND STUDENTS (Circular 19/64)**

(i)	Skin tested	...	...	...	...	1281
(ii)	Found positive	...	...	...	...	217
(iii)	Found negative	...	...	...	...	1009
(iv)	Vaccinated	...	...	...	...	1002

**Section 27 — Ambulance Service**

The Worcester City and District Voluntary Ambulance Service is responsible for this work under an agency agreement with the City Council. The service covers the southern part of the County as well as the entire City area. Its ability to function efficiently at a very economic level is due to general support by volunteer members of the St. John Ambulance Brigade and the British Red Cross Society who give valuable and effective help mainly in the evenings and weekend periods.

Mr. G. C. Hutchison, Ambulance Officer, reports :

The number of patients carried over the year still continues to rise, this increase is mainly for general treatment cases including day cases to Powick Hospital. It is interesting to note that by mutual co-operation there has been a slight reduction of miles per patient.

Vehicles :

The present fleet strength is as follows :

- 8 Stretcher/Sitting Case Ambulances stretcher 2 berth
- 1 Single Stretcher Long Distance Ambulance
- 1 Special Services Vehicle.

During 1970 one Stretcher-Sitting Case Ambulance was replaced by an Automatic Transmission Ford Transit Conversion type ambulance suitably modified under the direction of the Ambulance Officer.

#### Staff :

Once again there was no increase in staff, although frequently it was apparent that the service was under extreme pressure.

#### Training :

During the year eight full-time members of the service attended two-week training courses at schools designated by the Department of Health and Social Security. The purpose of these schools is to improve the standard (on a national basis) of the ambulanceman, concentrating on ambulance aid which deals with paramedical subjects, administration, organisation and new equipment and there is a special six-week course for new recruits.

In addition, a three day course run by the County Ambulance Service was attended by all personnel. The local course is designed primarily as a refresher course and to keep the members up-to-date with new techniques. The whole purpose of this more advanced training is to maintain the high standard of treatment the public has the right to expect.

#### Cases undertaken during the year :

					1970	1969
Accident or Emergency Cases	...	...	...	...	1,229	1,275
Infectious Cases	...	...	...	...	1,362	887
Others	...	...	...	...	25,123	24,084
Total Cases	...	...	...	...	27,714	26,246
Sitting Cases	...	...	...	...	21,388	20,122
Sitter 2 Cases	...	...	...	...	1,957	1,661
Stretcher Cases	...	...	...	...	4,369	4,463
Journeys	...	...	...	...	7,310	7,071
Total Mileage including Residue	...	...	...	...	105,262	103,732
Average Miles per Patient	...	...	...	...	3.80	3.95

#### Transport of Chiropody Patients :

Number of Persons carried	...	...	790
Mileage	...	...	4,724

#### General Ambulance Service :

During the year, 862 patients were carried over a distance of 29,222 miles at a cost of £1,384-22.

## Section 28 — Prevention of Illness, Care and After Care

### (a) Prevention of Tuberculosis

Two persons died from respiratory tuberculosis during the year and two from non-respiratory tuberculosis. Notifications of this disease remain low.

Year	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	Notifications	Deaths	Notifications	Deaths
1961	22	6	1	1
1962	33	7	2	0
1963	15	6	2	0
1964	20	5	2	0
1965	15	5	1	0
1966	20	4	3	0
1967	16	1	4	0
1968	15	2	3	3
1969	8	4	5	2
1970	8	2	3	2

### After Care :

At the end of the year 14 patients were being supplied with free milk. Clothing, bedding and nursing aids remain available as necessary.

### (b) Convalescence

Fourteen patients were sent for convalescence under the auspices of the Health Committee, while others were sent by various Charities, for whose help we are most grateful.

### (c) Health Education

Dr. Snell undertakes the supervision of health education activities amongst our staff and reports as follows :

With demands on the curative services so often straining the resources of family doctors and hospitals, more and more people become personally interested in the factors making for health and happiness which they can control themselves. Through newspapers, books and posters, people are given endless advice about diet, exercises, clothing, housing, smoking, alcoholism, abuse of drugs, etc. etc. It is, however, the media of television and the four radio channels that are often most effective in arousing interest in the first instance. When interest has been so aroused, people may become desirous of asking questions and learning more. It is here that talks and discussions among small groups become most useful. Requests for speakers to such groups are being addressed to all sections of this



Department and such interest is always welcomed. Throughout the year, talks have been given by the Medical Officer of Health, the Chief Nursing Officer and staff working under them, including health visitors and some of the public health inspectors. However, all these members of staff have already a full programme of work and it is often difficult to fit the talks asked for into their timetables. Although some of the officers concerned have a special aptitude for this kind of health education work, it has become necessary that their efforts should be co-ordinated by the provision of a full-time Health Education Officer. Such a person would have time for giving talks and be able to deal with enquiries from other Departments and from the general public. Financial provision for such a post was sought at the end of the year.

### Schools :

At present more than two-thirds of the time devoted to Health Education work is taken up by work in schools. The type of work done is treated in detail in the separate report upon the School Health Service, but one matter is of special interest to the general public. As had been forecast, the B.B.C. introduced during the summer term a new television series on sex education, aimed at children in junior schools between the ages of 8 and 11. The reactions of the school staff in Worcester were no doubt similar to that of the country as a whole. In one or two of our schools, the staff welcomed the programme and after making an explanation to a meeting of parents they went happily through the course, including the special follow-up discussions, making use of film strips also provided by the B.B.C. A large group of junior schools decided on a cautious approach and were not prepared to make use of this course in 1970. The remaining schools decided that an insufficient proportion of their staff felt prepared to tackle this relatively unknown field without outside assistance. We were approached and some school nurses and one school medical officer took part in planned lessons with the children. It is likely that following this initiative from the B.B.C., all junior schools will soon accept straightforward teaching of their children about the essentials of human reproduction as a normal class item. Those who have had most experience of the matter feel that it is important to give the children a sound preparation of this nature in a junior school so that they will be better prepared for the much more difficult and complicated issues which they will have to consider in their teens. These concern human



relationships in general and the special issues of unwanted pregnancies and the rapid increase of gonorrhoea in young people.

#### Alcoholism :

Several talks on this subject were given by our doctors. Plans are being considered in the City for the setting up of an advisory service open to the general public.

#### First Aid :

As in previous years, members of the Department continued to give lectures and take part in examinations for the official courses prepared by the St. John Ambulance Association. Regular first aid teaching was also given in some of our secondary schools and one of them provided a special display on one of its "Open Days".

#### Food Hygiene :

A further course of lectures and demonstrations was given at the Technical College leading to the award of the Certificate in the Hygiene of Food Retailing and Catering. One of our Public Health Inspectors assisted the college staff by taking half of these himself.

#### Home Safety :

This subject crops up on a variety of occasions, but this year one of us was asked to take half the lessons of a course held at the College for the Blind. This was devised on special lines to make it possible for some of the senior blind boys to compete for the Duke of Edinburgh's Award in this subject.

#### Parentcraft :

The Nursing Institute in The Tything continued to run a series of courses throughout the year for expectant mothers and one or two courses of a similar type were held at Powell's Row Clinic in St. John's. Attention is given to the place played by the young father in home building and it is usual to arrange for men to be invited to at least one of the sessions.

#### Smokers' Disease and the Abuse of Drugs :

Most of our secondary schools now find time for sessions and discussions devoted to the dangers of smoking and the misuse of drugs. One or both of these items is also frequently asked for in talks to youth groups and to some adult groups.

#### (d) Meals on Wheels

This service is undertaken by the Welfare Committee, the meals being prepared at Hillborough and delivered throughout the town by the Women's Royal Voluntary Service. During the year the Welfare Committee agreed to a substantial increase in the number of meals provided, a decision which evoked the general approbation of the multitude.

#### (e) Chiropody Service

The majority of our patients were aged 65 and over and indeed, of the 1,390 persons treated there were 1,276 in this category. The others were mainly younger, but handicapped persons. The bulk of our treatment is given at the clinic at Church House which accounted for 3,187 separate treatments during the year, a further 1,637 resulted from domiciliary visits and 118 patients were treated in the chiropodists' surgeries. A total in all of 4,942 treatments were thus provided by the Health Committee, transport by hospital car being arranged where necessary.

#### (f) Cervical Cytology

I am grateful to Dr. Margaret Bartholomew for the following report :

Year	Clinic Sessions	No. of Smears Taken	No. of Positives
1966	3 or 4	2,960	14
1967	4	2,512	8
1968	2	1,430	6
1969	2	1,371	8 (2 breasts)
1970	2	1,396	4

Our schedule for routine re-screening has again fallen behind due to the demand by new patients. A fairly large group of early repeats for known pathology has been carefully followed up, any persistent defaulters have been notified to the practitioners concerned.

Our numbers of new patients have kept up well, we have been quite active in the way of extra clinic visits. Before Christmas we spent several sessions at Cadbury Bros. Ltd., Blackpole and using their excellent facilities screened 126 of their staff. At the time of the postal strike we screened 55 staff at the G.P.O. Telephone Exchange in Foregate Street.

Mention must be made of our successful removal to the new Health Centre early in February. We quickly settled into a very workable routine. The initial difficulty of people not reading our change of address and returning to the Tything has largely dissolved. There is frequent expression of appreciation of the facilities by clients, in particular parking and cloakroom conveniences.

All this is very different from one place which we visited. We took all our clinic equipment with us, but had to manage on a Victorian horsehair sofa and a folding chair bed which collapsed when the first person sat on it. However, the kindness and co-operation of our hosts made up for these physical imperfections and Victoriana and cervical cytology make an interesting combination.

#### (f) Clinic for the Retired

I am grateful to Dr. Barbara Croft for her valuable report on the work of this clinic.

During the past year the Screening Clinic for the Retired has moved from the Tything Nursing Institute to the new Health Centre. People of 65 years of age and over are invited to come and have eye testing, hearing testing and a talk with the health visitor about housing and diet and any other problems are discussed. They also have a medical examination and a blood sample is taken. We try to detect any conditions such as diabetes and hypertension in their early stages. The patient's own doctor is kept informed of the results of these investigations.

We hope that by these means the older members of the community may be helped to remain active and so enjoy their retirement.

From 13th May, 1970 to 31st March, 1971, 262 patients were seen in the following age groups :

	64 years and under	65—69 years	70—74 years	75—79 years	80 years and over
	9%	41%	36%	9%	5%
Men	2%	18%	19%	5.6%	1.9%
Women	7%	23%	17%	3.4%	3.1%



Of these 262 patients 188 (72%) were living in privately owned houses, 48 (18%) in Corporation houses and 26 (10%) living with friends or relatives.

	64 years and under	65—69 years	70—74 years	75—79 years	80 years and over
Living with spouse	13	54	50	8	2
Living alone	8	33	30	14	4
Living with relatives	1	16	11	12	6



We found that 13 women and 10 men were living on inadequate diets. One patient was referred to the Social Security Department because of financial difficulties. Three people were having housing problems and one had a convalescent holiday arranged. A walking aid was provided for one patient. Only 7 men and 11 women were thought to be taking inadequate exercise and were advised about activity.

Defects in health were found as follows :

	Under 65 years	65—69 years	70—74 years	75—79 years	80 years and over
Overweight	2	29	15	6	—
Osteoarthritis	—	11	6	1	—
Deafness	4	16	13	9	3
Hypertension	6	14	16	6	5
Anaemia	1	—	1	1	2
Gastro-intestinal disorders	1	6	4	4	3
Urinary disorders	—	3	6	1	1
Neurological disease	1	5	2	—	2
Depression	—	1	3	—	—
Eye disorders	2	5	6	5	—
Cardiac disorder	1	11	19	2	3
Respiratory disorder	—	7	2	4	2
Foot disorder needing chiropody	1	12	7	3	—

From these figures it will be seen that overweight, arthritis, hypertension and cardiac disorders were most prevalent and deafness was commonly found. Weight reducing diets were advised when necessary. Appointments were made to see the chiropodist as needed.

Six diabetic patients were seen and five new diabetic patients were discovered. Three patients were found to have overactive thyroid glands and five had under functioning thyroid glands.

The health visitor followed up anyone needing home visits. It was felt that by allowing time for a full discussion of diet, activities and health problems that some help could be given to encourage these people to lead useful, independent lives.

(g) Worcester Society for Mental Welfare

As practically all our mental health services are to be ceded to the new Social Services Department it is only right that the work of the Worcester Society for Mental Welfare should be assigned to the new Department in future. I should, therefore, like to take this opportunity of expressing to the Chairman, Officers and members of the Society, my very real gratitude and appreciation of the work which they have done during the years to sustain mentally ill patients in co-operation with general practitioners and Health Department staff. The City of Worcester knows very little of devoted groups such as the members of this Society who work anonymously for the wellbeing of the community. It is a source of regret to me that I can do no more than acknowledge their support.

I am grateful to Mrs. Mary Lloyd, Honorary Secretary of the Worcester Society for Mental Welfare for the following report.

The Society has had an extremely busy year. There has been a marked increase in the number of applications for financial help and the following figures may be of interest :

Perryfields — Hostel	...	...	...	1
Training Centre	...	...	...	1
Family Rehabilitation Unit	...	...	...	2
City Cases	...	...	...	35 (18 in 1969)
				<hr/> 39 (23 in 1969) <hr/>

In addition to the above, 86 Christmas gifts were distributed to the Perryfields units and 24 to the City families — a total of 110, 11 more than the previous year.

The Society was able to arrange a visit to a Coventry theatre in December for the Hostel residents. Several members of the Committee joined the outing, which proved to be a most enjoyable evening.

Visits were paid regularly to several families by four members of the Society and birthday cards were sent to the trainees attending Perryfields Adult Training Centre.

Following press publicity in December, there was an overwhelming response by the public to an appeal for furniture, furnishings, cutlery etc. to help furnish a flat allocated by the local authority for the use of three male ex-hostel residents. A second flat, adjacent to the Hostel premises, for occupation by three female ex-residents, was also equipped from the furniture store.

The Society's financial resources have been considerably depleted over the year and serious consideration must be given to the fund-raising programme for 1971.

The Committee has continued to maintain the closest co-operation with the Public Health Department and this has been much appreciated.

### **The Greatest of These**

Tremendous support has been given to the Department by the Charity of St. Michael-in-Bedwardine and I am most grateful to the Trustees and their Clerk, Mr. Allan Jones, for the financial assistance which they have given to so many of our patients. On numerous occasions we find that there is no statutory means by which a problem can be resolved or that a comparatively small sum of money will make things so much more pleasant and easier for a sick person. This Charity has been unstinting in its succour and Mr. Jones has shown a compassionate interest in our cases which is deeply appreciated.

I must also thank the Bonaker Trust for their frequent help during the year and in particular, Colonel Burlingham and Mr. Lawley for the generous way in which they have come to our rescue.

### **Section 29 — Home Help Service**

I am indebted to Miss Cicely Pain, Home Help Organiser, for the following report.



Now that we are about to launch forth as part of the newly formed Social Services Department, one is tempted to reminisce over the past eight years. On April 1st, 1963, the Home Help Service, which until then had been run by the W.R.V.S., came directly under the administration of the Health Department, and commenced operation in a very small brick floored office in Bridge House. On that first morning this small domain contained neither chair nor desk — only one telephone, and one Home Help Organiser — myself. Applicants had been biding their time to apply for help in the new Department, and during that morning a constant stream of people arrived to make application for help. To add to complications never have so many Home Helps looked so much alike. At this point one should look at the significant date — April 1st. During the next few weeks more than four hundred cases receiving help had to be visited in their homes, and it was noticeable that on several occasions, householders came to the door with a sprightly step until they knew that they were confronted by the new Home Help Organiser, and with the fear that their help might be cut down, or even be withdrawn altogether, they visibly wilted on the spot.

At the end of 1970 one can see how much progress has been made. The case load has doubled in size, and 46 Home Helps (Full-time equivalent 32) has now increased to 89 (Full-time equivalent 58). In addition to one Home Help Organiser there is now an Assistant Home Help Organiser, one full-time and one part-time clerical assistant.

During the eight years it is rewarding to know that the image of the Home Help has slowly changed, and she is no longer looked upon quite so much as the “cleaning woman”. People have become aware that with her help many householders are able to remain comfortable and happy in their own homes, and that she gives a very personal and essential service to the community. The Home Help herself realises that she is a very important link in the team of domiciliary workers.

We are about to step on to another stepping stone — one wonders what our image will be at the end of another eight years.



## MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

At the end of the year the majority of the Mental Health Services administered by the Health Committee were ceded to the new Social Services Department under the terms of the Social Services Act. The Health Committee has always shown great interest in this particular work and when the Mental Health Act was approved in 1959, were quick to avail of their opportunities. Perryfields Adult Training Centre, Perryfields Hostel, the Family Rehabilitation Unit, were soon in operation and during the years a progressive and improving service functioned. In this field it is pleasant to record the close association with our colleagues in the County, they taking our handicapped children at Lower Wick Junior Training Centre, while we cared for their patients in the Perryfields complex. It is sad to say good-bye to this work and also to the members of staff who have done so much to promote it. I wish them well under the new flag and feel sure that their idealism and enthusiasm will make a significant contribution to the success of the new Department.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASE

I should like to record my appreciation of the unfailing co-operation given to this Department by Dr. R. J. Henderson, Director of the Worcester Public Health Laboratory, and his staff.

**Diphtheria :** For the nineteenth successive year there has been no case of diphtheria in the City.

**Scarlet Fever :** There were 32 cases of scarlet fever, none of which showed what might be termed pre-war severity.

**Whooping Cough :** There were four cases of whooping cough notified.

**Measles :** 316 cases of measles were reported during the year and only 16 of these had been vaccinated against the disease. The complications of measles are dangerous and it is hoped that as routine vaccination against this disease gets in its stride, the incidence will fall progressively until like poliomyelitis, it is merely a name echoing ancient battles.

**Dysentery :** Three cases of dysentery were notified during the year.

**Paratyphoid :** No case of paratyphoid occurred during the year.

**Infectious Hepatitis :** 107 cases were notified during the year. As far as one can see there was a general high incidence of this condition throughout the country and it certainly took its toll in the City of Worcester.

**Food Poisoning :** 14 cases were notified during the year.

**Venereal Disease :** First attendances at the Special Clinic at Worcester Royal Infirmary were as follows :

	1970	1969	1968
Syphilis ... ..	—	1	—
Gonorrhoea ... ..	36	48	32
Other Venereal Diseases	148	127	106

It is pleasant to report that no new cases of syphilis were recorded in the City.

## OTHER HEALTH DEPARTMENT SERVICES

### (a) **Housing Reports**

The Medical Officer of Health acts as adviser to the Housing Committee and its officers in the allocation of extra medical points to applicants for Council housing. This is a very useful adjunct of my work as it brings me into contact with many ill or troubled persons who may need other forms of help as well as housing. During the year, 152 applications of this nature were investigated, in addition to numerous requests for a transfer to other accommodation also on medical grounds.

### (b) **Nursing Homes**

There are three private nursing homes within the confines of the City and these were inspected at appropriate intervals.

### (c) **Examination of Plans**

All plans are vetted by the Medical Officer of Health and the Chief Public Health Inspector. This is a very useful chore and during 1970, 1,217 were scrutinised.

### (d) **National Assistance Act, 1948, Section 47, and National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951.**

Compulsory removal to hospital or old persons' home was undertaken twice during the year. In each instance removal was dictated by the urgent necessity to secure adequate treatment for a neglected person, and both are now permanent residents in one of our Homes.

### (e) **Medical Examinations**

Health Department medical staff examined 318 local authority staff for fitness to take up new appointments, and 65 persons for fitness to enter the teaching profession or to attend training colleges.

### (f) **Cremations**

1,296 medical certificates were scrutinised by the Medical Referee and his Deputy during the year.

## ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE

**Report of Mr. T. W. Marsden, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., Chief Public Health Inspector.**

### **Drainage and Sewerage**

North of the City Sewerage Scheme (Stage I) commenced in July 1970. In all there are three Stages, to be completed over a six year period.

There are 82 houses drained to septic tanks or cesspits. There are no houses which have to rely on pail closets.

### **Offensive Trades**

At the end of the year, the following premises were in operation :

			Old Established	Annual Licence	Total
Fellmongers	...	...	1	—	1
Rag and Bone Dealers	...	...	—	2	2
Hide and Skin Dealers	...	...	—	1	1

### **Rag Flock Act, 1951**

There is one establishment registered under the Rag Flock Act.

### **Animal Boarding Establishments Act, 1963**

There are no establishments registered under the above Act.

### **Pet Animals Act, 1951**

Three premises are registered under the above Act and have been inspected.

### **Pharmacy and Poisons Act, 1958**

Seventeen licences have been issued under the above Act.



**Clean Air Act, 1956-1968****Industrial**

1. Dark	Number of contraventions recorded	...	Nil
smoke	(a) successful prosecutions	...	Nil
	(b) unsuccessful prosecutions	...	Nil
2. Furnaces	(a) notifications received	...	35
(Section 3)	(b) application for prior approval	...	35
	(c) number of applications granted	...	35
3. Grit and			
Dust	(a) number of contraventions	...	4
emissions	(b) successful prosecutions	...	Nil
	(c) unsuccessful prosecutions	...	Nil
4. Height of	(a) number of applications	...	23
chimneys	(b) number of cases in which alterations		
	were required	...	4
	(c) number approved	...	23
	(d) number of chimneys erected not com-		
	plying with the approved plans	...	Nil
	(e) number of chimneys erected outside		
	control	...	Nil

**Domestic**

Nil

# OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

## Registrations and General Inspections

Class of Premises	Number of Premises newly registered during the year	Total number of registered premises at end of year	Number of registered premises receiving one or more general inspections during the year	Number of persons employed
Offices	17	203	34	4,238
Retail Shops	21	389	61	2,923
Wholesale shops, warehouses	1	44	22	1,223
Catering establishments and canteens	2	92	35	818
Fuel storage depots	—	2	—	14
Totals	41	730	152	9,216*

Number of Visits (including General Inspections) 442

\* males 3,472; females 5,744

## APPENDIX "A"

*Infringements of the Act and Regulations made thereunder*

Number of Notices served — 21

Number of Defects found — 96

				<i>No. of Defects</i>
SECTION 4 (CLEANLINESS)	...	...	...	5
SECTION 5 (OVERCROWDING)	...	...	...	1
SECTION 6 (TEMPERATURE)	...	...	...	12
SECTION 7 (VENTILATION)	...	...	...	17
SECTION 8 (LIGHTING)	...	...	...	4
SECTION 9 (SANITARY ACCOMMODATION)	...	...	...	5
SECTION 10 (WASHING FACILITIES)	...	...	...	3
SECTION 11 (DRINKING WATER)	...	...	...	2
SECTION 12 (CLOTHING ACCOMMODATION)	...	...	...	5
SECTION 15 (EATING FACILITIES)	...	...	...	1
SECTION 16 (FLOORS, PASSAGES AND STAIRS)	...	...	...	15
SECTION 24 (FIRST AID)	...	...	...	12
SECTION 49 (REGISTRATION)	...	...	...	7
SECTION 50 (ABSTRACT OF THE ACT)	...	...	...	7

## APPENDIX " B "

## ACCIDENTS

Number of Accidents Notified ——— 52

Number of Accidents Investigated — 16

(36 Accidents were not investigated due either to late notification or to being of a trivial nature.)

*Persons sustaining Injury**Place of Accident*

Man	...	...	22	Office	...	...	10
Woman	...	...	25	Shop	...	...	16
Boy	...	...	1	Warehouse	...	...	16
Girl	...	...	4	Catering Estab.	...	...	8
				Fuel Storage Depots			2

*Type of Accident*

Falls	...	...	...	...	...	16
Striking against an object or being struck by an object	...	...	...	...	...	24
Machinery and Transport	...	...	...	...	...	3
Use of Hand Tools	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	7
Fires and Explosions	...	...	...	...	...	1
Electricity	...	...	...	...	...	1

*Nature of Injury*

Fractured Limbs	...	...	...	...	...	4
Sprains and Strains	...	...	...	...	...	22
Open Wounds	...	...	...	...	...	13
Bruising, Crushing and Concussion	...	...	...	...	...	9
Burns	...	...	...	...	...	3
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	1

*Site of Injury*

Head	...	...	...	...	...	1
Back	...	...	...	...	...	12
Upper Limbs	...	...	...	...	...	20
Lower Limbs	...	...	...	...	...	7
Multiple	...	...	...	...	...	18



# FACTORIES ACT, 1961.

1. Inspections for the purpose of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
1. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	12	3	—	—
2. Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	325	65	9	—
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises) ...	15	18	—	—
Total ..	352	86	9	—

## 2. Cases in which Defects were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness ... ..	5	5	—	—	—
Overcrowding ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature ... ..	1	1	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation ... ..	2	2	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences :					
(a) insufficient ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
(b) unsuitable or defective ... ..	9	9	—	2	—
(c) not separate for sexes ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act not including offences relating to Outwork ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Total .. ..	17	17	—	2	—

### 3. Outwork (Sections 133 and 134).

Nature of Work	Section 133			Section 134		
	No. of outworkers in August list	Cases of default in sending lists	Prosecutions for failure to supply list	Instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Making etc., of apparel ..	517	—	—	—	—	—
Furniture and upholstery ...	14	—	—	—	—	—
Nails, Rivets and Staples .	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carding, etc., of buttons, etc.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	531	—	—	—	—	—

## Summary of Routine Work of the Public Health Inspectors

Nature of Visits, Inspections, etc.							Number of Visits etc.
Accumulations	...	...	...	...	...	...	178
Animals	...	...	...	...	...	...	62
Ashbins	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
Canal Boats	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Cesspits	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Clean Air Act : New plant	...	...	...	...	...	...	35
Smoke Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	87
Smoke observations	...	...	...	...	...	...	48
Closets : Water	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Pail	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	...	39
Dangerous Structures	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Ditches and Water Courses	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
Drains : Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	439
Smoke Tests	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Colour Tests	...	...	...	...	...	...	65
Entertainments Houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Exhumations	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Factories : Power	...	...	...	...	...	...	65
Non-Power	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Other	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Food : Manufacturing Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	35
Examinations	...	...	...	...	...	...	425
Shops and Warehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	532
Vehicles	...	...	...	...	...	...	55
Hotels and Restaurant Kitchens	...	...	...	...	...	...	203
Houses : Let-in-lodgings	...	...	...	...	...	...	175
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Vermin	...	...	...	...	...	...	95
Section 17	...	...	...	...	...	...	298
Section 42	...	...	...	...	...	...	140
Public Health Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	1160
Improvement Areas	...	...	...	...	...	...	635
Hairdressers	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Ice Cream : Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	29
Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	...	...	10



Infectious Disease Visits	...	...	...	...	204
Lectures	...	...	...	...	37
Licensed Premises	...	...	...	...	71
Local Land Charges reports	...	...	...	...	2195
Markets	...	...	...	...	65
Merchandise Marks Act	...	...	...	...	Nil
Miscellaneous Nuisances	...	...	...	...	175
Noise	...	...	...	...	144
Offensive Trades	...	...	...	...	11
Offices, Shops and Railways Premises Act :					
Inspections	...	...	...	...	442
Accidents Investigated	...	...	...	...	16
Outworkers	...	...	...	...	3
Pet Animals Act	...	...	...	...	3
Qualification Certificates	...	...	...	...	75
Rent Act	...	...	...	...	41
Rodent Control	...	...	...	...	164
Sampling : Bacteriological : Milk	...	...	...	...	141
Cream	...	...	...	...	4
Ice Cream	...	...	...	...	18
Food	...	...	...	...	11
Swabs and Rinses	...	...	...	...	10
Plate tests	...	...	...	...	4
Chemical : Milk	...	...	...	...	96
Cream	...	...	...	...	3
Ice Cream	...	...	...	...	Nil
Food and Drugs	...	...	...	...	45
Food (Complaints)	...	...	...	...	4
Fertiliser and Feeding Stuffs	...	...	...	...	12
Formal samples	...	...	...	...	Nil
Water : Tap, Swimming Baths, etc.	...	...	...	...	55
Schools	...	...	...	...	23
Septic Tanks	...	...	...	...	26
Sewers	...	...	...	...	25
Slaughterhouses : Public	...	...	...	...	40
Private (Upton-on-Severn R.D.C.)	...	...	...	...	Nil
Special Visits	...	...	...	...	513
Tips	...	...	...	...	19
Van Dwellings	...	...	...	...	10
Water Supply	...	...	...	...	12
Wells	...	...	...	...	Nil

## Number of Notices served and Summary of Work carried out during the Year

Number of Preliminary Notices served	...	...	...	66
Number of Verbal Notices	...	...	...	148
Number of Notice Letters Re : Noise	...	...	...	25
Re : Houses in Multiple Occupation				33
Re : Housing Defects	...			135
Re : Improvement Grants	...			108
Re : Food Hygiene	...			171
Re : Factories	...	...		14
Re : Miscellaneous Nuisances				97
Re : Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act				49
Re : Clean Air Act	...			47
Re : Prevention of Damage by Pests Act				20
Number of Notices (Statutory) served :				
Public Health Act, 1936, Section 39	...	...		21
Section 45	...	...		2
Section 83	...	...		1
Section 93	...	...		28
Section 138	...	...		3
Public Health Act, 1961, Section 17	...	...		8
Worcester Corporation Act, 1951, Section 104	...	...		1
Section 119	...	...		2
Housing Act, 1961, Section 15	...	...	...	4
Clean Air Act, 1956, Section 16	...	...	...	Nil
Noise Abatement Act, 1960	...	...	...	1
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963	...			21
Number of Complaints received and investigated	...			429
Number of Notices sent regarding infectious disease	...			30
Keeping of Animals	...	...	...	9
Accumulations	...	...	...	43
Vermin	...	...	...	1
Rats and Mice	...	...	...	25
Dustbins	...	...	...	2
Drains Cleared	...	...	...	33
Drains Repaired	...	...	...	24
Water Closets	...	...	...	14
Cesspools	...	...	...	2
Septic Tanks	...	...	...	2
Water Supply	...	...	...	11
Paving	...	...	...	3

Roofs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	48
Spoutings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	37
Chimneys	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Dampness	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	31
Sinks	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Windows	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	43
Floors	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
Walls, External		...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Walls, Internal		...	...	...	...	...	...	28
Ceilings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Staircases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Doors	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Fireplaces	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Offensive Trades		...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Clean Air	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Noise Nuisance		...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Overcrowding		...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Factories : Cleanliness		...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Temperature		...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Ventilation		...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Lighting		...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Sanitary Accommodation				...	...	...	...	9
Welfare Regulations	...			...	...	...	...	Nil
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises :								
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Heating		...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Lighting		...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Ventilation	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	27
Accommodation for Clothing				...	...	...	...	5
Seating	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cleanliness	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Washing Facilities		...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Sanitary Accommodation			...	...	...	...	...	7
Drinking Water		...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Eating Facilities		...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
No Abstract provided			...	...	...	...	...	11
Stairs and Floors etc.			...	...	...	...	...	40
Fencing	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
First Aid	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Registration	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Machinery	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

## Food Hygiene Regulations :

Wash hand basins	...	...	...	...	...	23
Sinks	...	...	...	...	...	16
Internal Structural Repairs	...	...	...	...	...	128
Cleanliness	...	...	...	...	...	114
First Aid Equipment	...	...	...	...	...	6
Hot and Cold water	...	...	...	...	...	21
Equipment	...	...	...	...	...	28
Personal Hygiene	...	...	...	...	...	24
Clothing Accommodation	...	...	...	...	...	5
Mobile food vans	...	...	...	...	...	5

**Rodent Control**

The following table summarises the work carried out by the staff of one Rodent Officer and one Rodent Operative.

Number of Complaints received	...	...	...	570
Number of Inspections carried out	...	...	...	910
Number of Treatments carried out	...	...	...	832
Types of Properties Treated :				
Number of Treatments (Local Authority Properties)	...	...	...	123
Number of Treatments (Dwelling Houses)	...	...	...	447
Number of Treatments (Business Premises)	...	...	...	30
Number of re-visits during treatments	...	...	...	1710
Number of Smoke and Drain Tests	...	...	...	15
Number of Inspections made with no treatments	...	...	...	69
Number of Treatments to River, Canal and Brook Banks	...	...	...	152
Inspections and Treatments to Tips, Allotments, Playing Fields and Parks	...	...	...	171

These figures include visits to hospitals, clinics, school meal kitchens, schools, tipping ground, public slaughterhouse and sewage disposal works, treatments being carried out where and when necessary.

Approximately 7,100 rats were exterminated according to the figure formula of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Poisons Estimates.

Number of wasp nests treated	...	...	...	108
Number of houses treated for bed bugs	...	...	...	9
Number of houses treated for fleas	...	...	...	6
Number of houses and premises treated for cluster flies	...	...	...	4
Premises and ponds treated for mosquitos	...	...	...	4



**Milk****Bacteriological examinations**

Type	Test	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Void	Total
Pasteurised Milk	Methylene Blue	78	11	23	112
Pasteurised Milk	Phosphatase	111	1	—	112
Sterilised Milk	Turbidity	17	—	—	17
U.H.T. Milk	Colony Count	10	—	—	10
(Untreated) Milk	Biological	2	—	—	2
Milk containers		4	—	—	4

**Chemical Examinations**

<b>Raw Milk</b> , informal samples taken	...	...	...	80
Found deficient in fat	...	...	...	4
Found deficient in solids non fat	...	...	...	11
<b>Raw Milk (Channel Island)</b> informal samples taken	...	...	...	16
Found deficient in fat	...	...	...	Nil
Found deficient in solids non fat	...	...	...	Nil
<b>Cream</b> , informal samples taken	...	...	...	3
Found deficient in fat	...	...	...	Nil

Of the samples found deficient in milk fat and solids not fat all, except two, were found to be genuine on bulking or as a result of the freezing point test.

**Other Bacteriological Examinations****Ice Cream**

Eighteen samples were taken with the following results :

Grade 1	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Grade 2	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Grade 3	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Grade 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Swabs of ice cream plant	...	...	...	...	...	...	6

Bacteriological examinations were made as a result of investigation or complaint for the following :

Cooked Chicken	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Salt Deposit	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
School Meal	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Hotel Meal	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Terrapin Water	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Terrapin Bone Meal	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Terrapin Meat	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Budgerigar Seed	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Rabbit Oats and Pellets	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

## Other Chemical Examinations

Almond Essence	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Aspirin	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Baked Beans	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Butter	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Cheese	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cochineal	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cocktail Cherries	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Curried Chicken	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Coffee and Chicory Essence			...	...	...	...	1
Cream	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Drinking Chocolate		...	...	...	...	...	1
Dust (Factory)	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Food Colouring	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Fruit Drinks	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Garlic	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Instant Milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Margarine	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Pork Pie	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Pork Sausage	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Salad Dressing	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Sponge Mixture	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Steak	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Shandy	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Tea	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Vegetable Salad	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Vegetable Soup	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Beechams Powder	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Bronchial Mixture	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Redcurrant Jelly	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

## Complaints

Beef Burgers	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Suspect Meals	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

**Food Premises — Food Hygiene (General) Regulation, 1960**

Main Trade Class	Number of premises	Number complying with Reg. 16	Number to which Reg. 19 applies	Number of premises complying with Reg. 19
Bakers ...	7	7	7	7
Butchers ...	47	47	47	47
Cafes', Restaurants, Snack Bars ...	55	55	55	55
Confectioners Flour	14	14	14	14
Confectioners Sweets	62	62	30	32
Fish and Chips ...	24	24	24	24
Fishmongers ...	17	17	17	17
Greengrocers ...	51	51	51	51
Grocers ...	167	167	167	167
Public Houses ...	124	124	124	124
Off Licences ...	50	50	50	50
Social Clubs ...	55	55	55	55
Supermarkets ...	12	12	12	12
Warehouses ...	18	18	18	18
Works Canteens and School Kitchens ...	51	51	51	51

**Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act**

Six informal samples of fertilisers and six informal samples of feeding stuffs were taken during the year. All were found to be satisfactory within the allowed limits of variation.

**Foodstuffs (other than Butcher's Meat at Slaughterhouses) condemned during the year**

Tinned Foods (20,704 tins)	...	...	...	156,045 lbs.
Fish ...	...	...	...	336 lbs.
Meat ...	...	...	...	4,040 lbs.
Miscellaneous Foods (Cereals etc.)	...	...	...	152,271 lbs.

Total — 139 tons, 11 cwts., 3 qtrs., 16 lbs.

**Meat Inspection**

Weight of meat and offals condemned at the Public Slaughterhouses amounted to 18 tons, 5 cwts., 2 qtrs., 5 lbs.

### Food and Drugs Act Prosecutions

(1) Milk not of quality demanded	...	...	Fined £15
(2) Mouldy Plum Pie	...	...	Fined £60
(3) Milk not of substance demanded	...	...	Fined £15

In addition the Health Committee gave instructions to issue warning to 8 traders for offences in conjunction with the sale of food in contravention of the requirements of the Food and Drugs Act.

### Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations, 1963

There are no egg pasteurisation plants in the district.

### Poultry Inspection

There are no poultry processing premises in the district.

### Imported Foods

Until recent years all consignments of imported food were examined at the docks by Inspectors employed by the Port Health Authorities. The introduction of "Containerised" shipments has made radical changes. After customs clearance the containers are despatched to their final destination and on arrival the contents are examined by Local Authority Inspectors. The Port Health Authorities notify the Local Authorities of the details of the consignment and address of destination.

During 1970 the following imported foodstuffs in containers were examined by your Inspectors :

White pea beans (100 lb. bags)	...	...	119,965 bags
Coffee	...	...	1 container
Orange Juice	...	...	24,348 galls.
Lemon Juice	...	...	750 galls.
Preserved Strawberries (40 gall. kegs)	...	...	660 kegs
Apricot pulp (10 lb. tins)	...	...	3,600 tins
Tomato puree (10 lb. tins)	...	...	14,400 tins
Irish beef (Quarters)	...	...	1,333
Irish beef (Cut, boned or unboned)	...	...	240 cartons
Irish beef offal	...	...	52 cartons

The dramatic increase in the amount of food condemned (supra) is mainly due to condemnation of imported foods in containers. Problems arise in disposing of unfit foods, especially when in very large quantities.



## **Exported Foods**

Lambs dressed at the Worcester Abattoirs for despatch to European countries are first inspected by Local Authority Inspectors and finally by a Veterinary Officer who must sign the Export Certificate. Export certificates for other foods are signed by Public Health Inspectors, and during the year 11 certificates were issued covering 105,000 tins.

It is anticipated that if the U.K. becomes a member of the European Common Market, importation and exportation of food between the member countries will increase, bringing further duties for your Health Department staff.

## **Date Stamping of Pre-packed Food**

The debate on the date marking of pre-packed food stuffs gathered impetus during the year with disturbing revelations reported in the National Press and by the Consumer Council on the amount of stale food being sold to a gullible public.

This problem is not confined to the large Cities which have been the subject of the aforementioned publicity, but is equally prevalent in the City of Worcester. Inspections of retail shops, wholesale warehouses and food delivery vehicles have revealed considerable ignorance on the part of retailers and wholesalers on the shelf life of food stuffs and of the interpretation of manufacturer's codings and a willingness on the part of van delivery salesmen to operate an unofficial sale or return system in order to boost sales.

Retailers have been strongly advised to operate their own coding system of all pre-packed foods delivered into their premises and not to abrogate their responsibility for stock rotation to the delivery salesman whose interest is not necessarily theirs. They have also been advised to make themselves conversant with manufacturer's codes, which are comparatively easy to interpret, so that they can effectively check that fresh food is being delivered into their premises.

Similar advice was given to managers of wholesale warehouses, who at one point during the year, found themselves being used as a dumping ground for stale confectionery. The problem here is doubled because the product should have a reasonable shelf life in the warehouse with a further period available for the retailer before the code expires.

Delivery vehicles inspected were found to have some products out of code. The driver/salesmen admitted in some circumstances this was the result of unofficial sale or return, in others it was the result of overstocking the vehicle and not carrying out stock rotation.

Some salesmen interviewed operated unofficial sale or return with certain customers to keep their sales and the customer satisfied. Any out of code stock returned to the depot was in some circumstances debited against their commission so the emphasis was for salesman to sell all stock.

Certain market traders are in the habit of purchasing quantities of flour confectionery from manufacturers having a short coded life. These are sold at cheap prices from stalls. In one instance, a trader had a large amount of outdated stock which upon visual inspection was apparently satisfactory. The manufacturers were contacted and they and the retailer resolved the matter between themselves. The out coded stock was removed.

In spite of advice and emphasis given to coding of food-stuffs by Public Health Inspectors' during routine hygiene inspections, the problem still remains due to recalcitrant attitudes of manufacturers, retailers and salesmen alike.

The solution may only be solved ultimately by the consumer demanding a date marking system of all pre-packed food stuffs, enforceable by legislation.

## Public Slaughterhouse

*Carcases and Offal Inspected and Condemned in whole or in part*

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	4,943	485	796	64,725	10,032
Number inspected	4,943	485	796	64,725	10,032
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned	24	6	14	133	52
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	657	281	—	3,230	829
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	13.77	59.17	1.75	5.58	8.78
<i>Tuberculosis only</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	58
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	0.58
<i>Cysticercosis</i>					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	6	3	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	6	3	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—



## Housing

### (1) Common Lodging Houses

There are no registered common lodging houses in the City. There are, however, several low grade boarding houses to which the people "of no fixed abode" are directed, often at the expense of the Department of Health and Social Security. From time to time itinerants frequent the river side and derelict houses.

### (2) Houses in Multiple Occupation

Although these houses do not present a very serious problem, there is a slow yearly increase in their numbers, now 166. There is also a tendency for persons of the various nationalities to acquire houses in particular areas of the City.

### (3) Slum Clearance

During the year 3 small clearance areas were declared :

Tallow Hill No. 1 Area	...	...	...	3 houses
London Road No. 1 Area	...	...	...	7 houses
St. Martin's Gate No. 1 Area	...	...	...	9 houses

There were also 52 individual unfit houses represented.

The progress in Slum Clearance from 1954 until the end of 1970 was as follows :

Unfit houses represented	...	...	...	...	2,173
Tenants rehoused	...	...	...	...	1,742
Sub-tenants rehoused	...	...	...	...	134
Tenants and Sub-tenants who found own accommodation	...	...	...	...	275
Houses vacant when represented	...	...	...	...	117
Houses demolished under Housing Act	...	...	...	...	1,725
Unfit houses demolished privately	...	...	...	...	57
Houses closed on Closing Orders	...	...	...	...	94
Houses made fit and removed from programme	...	...	...	...	81

During the year, 85 houses were demolished under the Housing Act, 3 houses were converted to other uses, 20 fit houses were demolished to facilitate redevelopment of the sites, 12 houses were converted into flats providing a further 23 units of dwelling accommodation.



## **Rehousing**

During the year there were 353 privately built houses and 132 council houses completed. 79 families were rehoused from unfit houses, and tribute must be paid to the Housing Superintendent for the invaluable assistance afforded to the Health Department and the sympathetic manner in which he has endeavoured to offer suitable and acceptable rehousing to displaced families. The great need now is for small dwelling units conveniently placed near the City centre.

It is worthy of note that whilst Worcester is regarded as an ancient and historic City, 38.7 per cent of its total houses have been erected since 1945.

## **Improvement of older houses**

The whole of the Arboretum Area was inspected and the details placed before the Health Committee as a potential general improvement area. Of the 635 houses in the area, 357 were owner-occupied and 278 tenanted: 238 of the owner-occupied houses and 80 of the tenanted houses had already been modernised. This area has all the ingredients for a model improvement area, but the Health Committee had reluctantly to defer a decision until the final transportation survey is completed and accepted by the City Council. Other areas are now being surveyed.

The inclusion of certain items of repair qualifying for improvement grant and the necessity to secure good general repair in property to be improved has taken up a considerable amount of time for the district public health inspectors. This has been worthwhile, for at the 98 houses inspected for grant applications 1,157 items of disrepair were noted and remedied.

## **Rent adjustments for houses with all amenities**

61 applications for Qualifying Certificates under the Housing Act 1969 were received. Of these 9 were invalid because the houses were already decontrolled, 14 certificates were granted and 38 refused because of disrepair.

## **Rent adjustment of houses to be fitted with all amenities**

14 applications for Provisional Qualification Certificates were received. 12 certificates were granted and 2 were refused.

## **Rent Act 1968**

There were no applications for certificates of disrepair.

**Prosecutions relating to housing**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| (1) Non compliance of Abatement Notice ...                               | Fined £5 and a<br>28 day Order<br>made. |
| (2) Non compliance of Nuisance Order ...                                 | Fined £5                                |
| (3) Non compliance of notice under Section<br>15 Housing Act 1961 ... .. | Fined £30                               |
| (4) Use of premises in contravention of<br>Closing Order ... ..          | Fined £5                                |

**HOUSING STATISTICS****1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the Year :**

- |   |       |
|---|-------|
| (1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected<br>for housing defects (under Public Health<br>or Housing Acts) ... ..  | 915   |
| (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose  | 2,483 |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a<br>state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be<br>unfit for human habitation ... ..                                 | 71    |
| (3) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those<br>referred to under the preceding sub-head) found<br>not to be in all respects reasonably fit for<br>habitation ... .. | 90    |

**2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without service of formal notices :**

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ... ..	38
--	----

**3. Action under statutory Powers during the Year :**

- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| (a) Proceedings under Section 9, Housing Act, 1957 :  |     |
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of<br>which notices were served requiring repair ... | Nil |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were ren-<br>dered fit after service of formal notices :  |     |
| (a) By Owners ... ..  | Nil |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners   | Nil |

## (b) Proceedings under Public Health Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	... ..	65
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices		
(a) By owners	... ..	27
(b) By Local Authority in default of owner		Nil

## (c) Proceedings under Sections 16, 17, 23 and 28 of the Housing Act, 1957 :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	... ..	36
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	... ..	14
(3) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders	... ..	39
(4) Number of Demolition Orders determined	...	Nil
(5) Number of Closing Orders determined	...	2
(6) Number of dwellings closed on undertaking		Nil
(7) Number of reconditioning schemes accepted		Nil
(8) Number of demolition orders substituted for Closing Order	... ..	1

## (d) Proceedings under Section 18, Housing Act, 1957 :

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	... ..	2
(2) Number of undertakings accepted to close houses for human habitation	... ..	Nil
(3) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined the tenement or room having been rendered fit	... ..	1
(4) Reconditioning schemes accepted in respect of dwelling-houses	... ..	Nil



## WATER SUPPLY

The City's domestic supply is all obtained from the River Severn and treated by settlement, filtration and chlorination.

There is no plumbo solvent action in the water. The average daily consumption for all purposes is 4,470,000 gallons or 62.1 gallons per head per day.

There is a separate piped supply to 25,878 houses with a population of 71,662. 89 houses with a population of 258 share taps in common wash-houses. There are no houses relying on water from wells.

Four wells are still in use at business premises.

Routine sampling of water is carried out by the Water Board and the Public Health Department. During the year the following samples were submitted for analysis :

	Bact. Exam.	Chem. Exam.
Raw Water ... ..	78	12
Raw Water after settlement	84	—
Primary Filter water ... ..	51	—
Slow Sand Filters ... ..	104	—
Common Outlet of Filters ... ..	76	—
Final Water ... ..	112	12
Check samples from tap in laboratory	51	—
Consumer tap samples ... ..	16	12

## Swimming Baths

Again this year, careful surveillance was kept of the learner swimming pools at the various schools. 28 samples of bath water were submitted for analysis.



**Summary of Chemical Analyses of Tap Water**  
**Year ending 31st December, 1970**

				<i>Parts per million</i>		
				<i>Min.</i>	<i>Max</i>	<i>Average</i>
Solids in Solution (Dried at 180°C)				135	500	346
Chlorine present as Chloride	...	...		27	115	67
Hardness Non-Carbonate	...	...		34	100	74
Hardness Carbonate	...	...	...	30	150	95
Hardness Total	...	...	...	64	250	172
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	...	...	...	Nil	0.06	0.02
Albuminoid Nitrogen	...	...	...	0.04	0.16	0.07
Nitrate Nitrogen	...	...	...	3.1	6.5	4.5
Nitrite Nitrogen	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 27°C (N/80 Permanganate)	...	...	...	0.70	2.9	1.3
Toxic Metals	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total Residual Chlorine	...	...	Trace		0.45	0.16
Fluoride	...	...	...	0.05	0.2	0.12
Phosphate as PO <sub>4</sub>	...	...	...	0.27	2.2	1.01
pH				6.9	7.8	7.4

Summary of 12 monthly analyses of water leaving the Water-works.























